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Message Text

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44
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /065 W
---------- 062975
R 191335Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4291
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USDOCOSOUTH
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5512

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT MPOL TU
SUBJECT: MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COURT ANNULS ASSIGNMENT
OF AIR FORCE CHIEF

REF: ANKARA 3854 (DTG 141423Z MAY 76)

1. JULY 16 THE MILITARY HIGH ADMINISTRATIVE COURT ANNULLED THE ASSIGNEMENT OF LT. GEN CEMAL ENGIN AS AIR FORCE COMMANDER. ACTING ON AN APPEAL BY AIR FORCE GENERAL OZAYDINLI (WHO WAS PASSED OVER IN THE SELECTION OF ENGIN) THE COURT RULED UNANIMOUSLY THAT ENGIN'S ASSIGNMENT WAS NOT, AS THE GOVERNMENT HAD ARGUED, IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, AND THAT THE AIR FORCE COMMANDER COULD NOT BE APPOINTED FROM THE RANKS OF LIEUTENANT GENERALS.

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2. PRIMIN DEMIREL'S INITIAL REACTION TO THE DECISION WAS

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CAUTIOUS. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT COMMENT UNTIL HE HAD READ THE FULL DECISION (WHICH WILL REPORTEDLY BE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT JULY 19). HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT LEGAL SOLUTIONS ARE "INEXHAUSTIBLE." TURKISH GENERAL STAFF CHIEF SANCAR IS QUOTED BY CUMHURIYET JULY 18 SAYING, "I DON'S VIOLATE THE LAW -- WHATEVER THE COURT DECIDES, THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO*"

3. THE OPPOSITION PRESS IS HAVING A FIELD DAY WITH THIS LATEST EMBARRASSING CHAPTER OF THE STORY THAT BEGAN IN MARCH WITH THE RESIGNATION OF AIR FORCE CHIEF GENERAL AKPKAYA WHO WAS ACCUSED (AND SUBSEQUENTLY ACQUITTED) OF MISHANDLING FUNDS DONATED FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF. WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT BUT THE RANGE OF ATTRACTIVE OPTIONS FOR DEMIREL AND SANCAR APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY NARROWED BY THIS LATEST COURT ACTION.
MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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